

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/889,704

Examiner

Bruce F. Bell

Applicant(s)

FISCHER, HELMUT

Art Unit

1746

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the application as filed on 01/14/2002.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-42.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 14 January 2002 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date 07012004.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

Bruce F. Bell
Primary Examiner
Art Unit: 1746

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. M. Robert Kestenbaum on June 15, 2004.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the specification, please make the following changes:

Page 1, lines 5-6; Delete “, according to the preamble of claim 1”.

Page 1, line 7; Insert “BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION”.

Page 2, line 28; Insert “SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION”.

Page 3, lines 4-5; Delete “According to the invention, this object is achieved by the features of claim 1.”

Page 4, lines 9-10; Change “is described in accordance with claim 1” to “will be described further in the specification along with other advantages of the invention”.

Page 8, before line 1; Insert “BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS”.

Page 9, at the beginning the page; Insert

“oriented in an alternative way to that shown in Figures 6a and 6b,

Figure 8 shows a perspective view of an alternative embodiment to that shown in Figure 1, and

Figures 9a and 9: diagrammatically depict the principle of action of the

alternative embodiment shown Figure 8.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

Figure 1 shows a perspective illustration of a component carrier 11 according to the invention, which can be arranged as required on a bracket 13 for the mounting and removal of components 12 (Figure 3). The component carrier 11 serves to accommodate a multiplicity of components 12, the surface of which is at least partially surface-treated or coated. In this application example, the components 12 are armatures for injection nozzles in internal combustion engines, which are produced with a high level of accuracy and the surface of which is extremely sensitive. These components 12 are very lightweight and weigh, for example, 1 g. At least one".

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art of record fails to teach and/or suggest a component carrier for holding at least one component for surface coating, having at least one holding magnet, wherein magnetic lines of force of the magnet run through the component in a region close to a contact surface, and carrier is inclusive of a diaphragm for holding at least one component in a holding position with respect to the at least one holding magnet on at least on contact surface of an electrically conductive housing. The pole axis of the at least one holding magnet is positioned transversely to the contact surface so that the magnetic holding force which acts on at least one component in the holding position is reducible by displacement of the at least one holding magnet out of the holding position

or by displacement of the at least one component along the contact surface out of the holding position or by relative movement of at least one component along a contact surface and at least one holding magnet with respect to the holding position for removal of at least one component.

The problem addressed by the instant invention is the damage to components caused by the gripping of the components and force required to overcome the magnetic holding force when removing the components from the component carrier. As can be seen by the instantly claimed invention, means for reducing the magnetic force exercised on the components when components are to be removed from the carrier are set forth. The relative displacement of the holding magnets out of the holding position and the relative displacement of the at least one component along the contact surface out of the holding position are set forth in applicant's instant specification as set forth by way of a carriage that has the holding magnets on it which slides to move the magnets away from the component to reduce the magnetic field that holds the components in place. Therefore, the relative displacement of the holding magnets and/or components has been construed by the examiner to be the apparatus means that is set forth in applicant's specification.

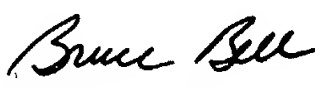
Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Bruce F. Bell whose telephone number is 571-272-1296. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 6:30 AM - 3:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael Barr can be reached on 571 272-1414. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

BFB
July 1, 2004


Bruce F. Bell
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1746